

Devotions of the Holy Family



Invocations of the Holy Family

The following Litany and Collects are taken from those used by the Archconfraternity of the Holy Family. The Litany is identical except for the removal of a single petition; its closing prayer, except for a single clause. The changes refer to petitions made specifically in regard to the Archconfraternity. This Litany and its closing prayers are appropriate for communal prayer.

O Jesus, Mary and Joseph, we humbly invoke you as our most loving and powerful protectors. To you do we have recourse in all our wants, in all our trials and afflictions; and we implore you to take us, and all Christian families, under your especial protection.

May you be ever honoured and loved, blessed and praised, by us and by all mankind. R. Amen.

Blessed be Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
worthy objects of our reverence and love,
praisèd be Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Blessed be Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
by the voice of all ages called the Holy Family,
praisèd be Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Blessed be Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
image on earth of the Adorable Trinity,
praisèd be Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Blessed be the Holy Family,
tried by the greatest contradictions,
praisèd be Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Blessed be the Holy Family, afflicted in the journey to Bethlehem,
&c.

Blessed be the Holy Family,
rejected by all and obliged to take refuge in a stable,

Blessed be the Holy Family, saluted by the choirs of angels,

Blessed be the Holy Family, visited by the poor shepherds,

Blessed be the Holy Family, venerated by the wise men,

Blessed be the Holy Family,

persecuted and exiled in a strange country,

Blessed be the Holy Family, hidden and unknown at Nazareth,

Blessed be the Holy Family, model of Christian families,

Blessed be the Holy Family, living in peace and charity,

Blessed be the Holy Family,
 leading a life of poverty, toil and suffering,
Blessed be the Holy Family,
 in which the father is a model of paternal vigilance,
Blessed be the Holy Family,
 in which the mother is a model of maternal care,
Blessed be the Holy Family,
 in which the Child is a model of obedience and filial piety,
Blessed be the Holy Family, poor in the goods of this world
 but rich in the goods of Heaven,
Blessed be the Holy Family, despised by men but great before God,
Blessed be the Holy Family, our support in life, our hope in death,
 praised be Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Let us pray.

O God of goodness and mercy, grant that we may always honour and imitate Jesus, Mary and Joseph so that, pleasing them on earth, we may enjoy their presence in Heaven, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Memorare to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Remember, O most Blessed Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O virgin of virgins my mother. To thee I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions but, in thy mercy, hear and answer me. *Amen.*

Memorare to St. Joseph

Remember, O most amiable, most benevolent, most kind and most merciful father, St. Joseph, that the great St. Teresa assures us that she never had recourse to thy protection without obtaining relief. Animated with the same confidence, O dear St. Joseph, I come to thee, and groaning under the heavy burden of my many sins, I prostrate myself at thy feet. O most compassionate father, do not, I beseech thee, reject my poor and miserable prayers but graciously hear and answer my petitions. *Amen.*

DAILY INVOCATIONS TO THE HOLY FAMILY TO BE USED PRIVATELY THROUGHOUT FEBRUARY

Jesus, Mary and Joseph: I give you my heart and my soul.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph: assist me in my last agony.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph: may I expire peacefully in your holy company.

PRAYERS OF CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY FAMILY

The following prayers are to be used by families assembled, not communally, to consecrate the family to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. This consecration should be done or begun on the Feast of the Holy Family (Sunday after the Epiphany) or during the month of February.

DAILY PRAYER BEFORE A REPRESENTATION OF THE HOLY FAMILY

(This prayer was approved by Pope Leo XIII on 20 June, 1892.)

O most loving Jesus, Who, by the ineffable virtues and by the example of Thy domestic life, didst consecrate the family which Thou didst choose on earth, in Thy clemency, look down upon this household humbly prostrate before Thee, and imploring Thy mercy. Remember that this family belongs to Thee, for to Thee, we have, in a special way, dedicated and devoted ourselves. Look upon us in Thy loving-kindness, preserve us from every danger, give us help in the time of need, and grant us the grace to persevere to the end in the imitation of the Holy Family, that, having revered Thee and loved Thee faithfully upon earth, we may bless and praise Thee eternally in Heaven.

O Mary, most sweet mother, to thy intercession we have recourse, knowing that thy divine Son will hear thy prayers.

And do thou, O glorious Patriarch St. Joseph, assist us by thy powerful mediation and offer, by the hands of Mary, our prayers to Jesus.

Act of Consecration of a Christian Family to the Holy Family

O Jesus, our most loving Redeemer, Who didst come into the world to enlighten it by Thy teaching and by Thine example, and Who didst will to pass the greater part of Thy mortal life in the poor cottage at Nazareth in humble subjection to Mary and Joseph, thus sanctifying that Family which was to be the model of all Christian families, graciously receive this family which dedicates and consecrates itself to Thee this day. Do Thou protect us, do Thou watch over us! Do Thou bestow upon us Thine holy fear, peace, concord and Christian love that so, by the imitation of Thy Family as our pattern and model, we may each and all obtain everlasting happiness.

O Mary, loving mother of Jesus and our mother, by thy gracious intercession, may this humble dedication be acceptable to Jesus, and obtain for us His graces and blessings.

St. Joseph, holy guardian of Jesus and Mary, assist us by thy prayers in all our spiritual and temporal necessities so that, with Mary and with thee, we may for all eternity bless and thank our divine Redeemer, Jesus.

This devotion booklet has been prepared by the Una Voce Vancouver Island Association (U.V.V.I.A.)